

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Akimasa OHTA, et al.

Appln. No. Not assigned

Confirmation No.: Not assigned

Group Art Unit: Not assigned

Filed: December 31, 2001

Examiner: Not assigned

For: ELECTRONIC MAIL CERTIFYING METHOD AND ELECTRONIC MAIL CERTIFYING SYSTEM USING THE SAME

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

1. Japanese Patent Publication (unexamined) 10-093620 with English Abstract.
2. Japanese Patent Publication (unexamined) 10-207360 with English Abstract.
3. Japanese Patent Publication (unexamined) 11-261549 with English Abstract.
4. Japanese Patent Publication (unexamined) 11-234330 with English Abstract.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
New U.S. Application to A. Ohta et al.

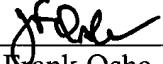
application (CPA) under §1.53(d); (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations: Applicants are relying on the English Abstracts as the statement of relevance.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Substitute for form 1449 A & B/PTO		Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		Application Number	Not assigned
(use as many sheets as necessary)		Confirmation Number	Not assigned
		Filing Date	December 31, 2001
		First Named Inventor	Akimasa OHTA
		Art Unit	Not assigned
		Examiner Name	Not assigned
		Attorney Docket Number	Q67827
Sheet	1	of	1

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

## OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

**Examiner Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date Considered** \_\_\_\_\_

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.